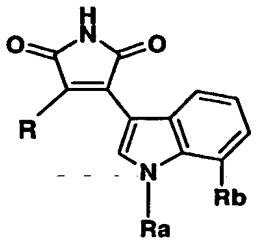
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I



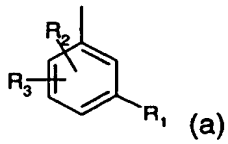
I

wherein

R_a is H; CH_3; CH_2-CH_3; or isopropyl,

R_b is H; halogen; C_{1-6}alkoxy; or C_{1-6}alkyl, and either

I. R is a radical of formula (a)



(a)

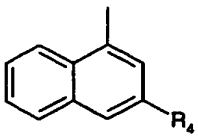
wherein

R_1 is piperazin-1-yl optionally substituted by CH_3 in position 3 or 4; or 4,7-diaza-spiro [2.5] oct-7-yl;

R_2 is Cl; Br; CF_3; or CH_3; and

R_3 is H; CH_3; or CF_3; R_2 being other than CH_3 or Cl when R_3 is H, R_a is H or CH_3, R_b is H and R_1 is 4-methyl-1-piperazinyl; or

II. R is a radical of formula (b)

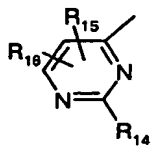


(b)

wherein

R_4 is piperazin-1-yl substituted in positions 3 and/or 4 by CH_3; or 4,7-diaza-spiro [2.5] oct-7-yl; R_a being other than H or CH_3 when R_4 is 4-methyl-1-piperazinyl; or

III. R is a residue of formula (c)


(c)

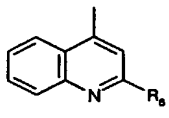
wherein

R_{14} is piperazin-1-yl optionally substituted by CH_3 in position 3 and/or 4 or in position 3 by ethyl, phenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy-C_{1-4}alkyl or halogeno–C_{1-4}alkyl; or 4,7-diaza-spiro [2.5] oct-7-yl;

R_{15} is halogen; CF_3; or CH_3; R_{15} being other than CH_3 when R_{16} is CH_3, R_a is H or CH_3, R_b is H and R_{14} is 4-methyl-1-piperazinyl; and

R_{16} is H; CH_3; CH_2-CH_3; or CF_3; R_{16} being other than H when R_{15} is Cl, R_a is H or CH_3, R_b is H and R_{14} is 4-methyl-1-piperazinyl; or

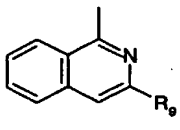
IV. R is a radical of formula (d)


(d)

wherein

R_8 is 1-piperazinyl, 3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl or 4-benzyl-piperazin-1-yl; or

V. R is a radical of formula (e)


(e)

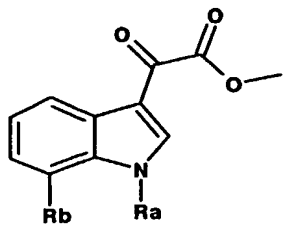
wherein

R_9 is 4,7-diaza-spiro [2.5] oct-7-yl; or 1-piperazinyl substituted in position 3 by methyl or ethyl and optionally in position 4 by methyl,

or a salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 which is selected from 3-[5-chloro-6-methyl-2-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-pyrimidin-4-yl]-4-(1H-indol-3-yl)-pyrrole-2,5-dione, 3-[3-(4,7-diaza-spiro[2.5]oct-7-yl)-isoquinolin-1-yl]-4-(7-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-pyrrole-2,5-dione and 3-(1H-indol-3-yl)-4-[2-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-5-trifluoromethyl-pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrrole-2,5-dione or a salt thereof.

3. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, which process comprises reacting a compound of formula II



(II)

wherein R_a and R_b are as defined in claim 1,

with a compound of formula III

$$R - CH_2 - CO - NH_2 \qquad (III)$$

wherein R is as defined in claim 1,

and, where required, converting the resulting compound of formula I obtained in free form to a salt form or vice versa, as appropriate.

4. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 or 2, in free form or in a pharmaceutically acceptable salt form for use as a pharmaceutical.

5. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.

6. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 or 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment or prevention of disorders or diseases mediated by T lymphocytes and/or PKC or GSK-3β.

7. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 or 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in combination with an immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative or anti-diabetic drug.

8. A combination comprising a) a compound of formula I in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, and b) at least one second agent selected from an immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative and anti-diabetic drug.

9. A method for preventing or treating disorders or diseases mediated by T lymphocytes and/or PKC or GSK-3β in a subject in need of such treatment, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A method according to claim 9 comprising co-administration concomitantly or in sequence of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, and a second drug substance, said second drug substance being an immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative or anti-diabetic drug.